DON'T BE A DOWNWARD DOG

YOGA TEACHERS, KNOW THY BOUNDARIES. PAGE 29

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Monday February 10, 2014 **www.metro.us | t: MetroNewYork | f: MetroNewYork**

LaBeouf's latest deliberate weirdness

PAGE 18

Abbie Cornish: Don't hate 'Robo' redo

PAGE 19

Sizing up Olympic hockey contenders

PAGE 35

NEW YORK FASHION WEEK FALL 2014: HELLO, BROOKLYN

PAGES 24-27

Alexander Wang headed to the Brooklyn Navy Yard to showcase his fall 2014 line. This is what the future of fashion looks like. / GETTY IMAGES

Debunking 'super rat'

Tall tail? After Superstorm Sandy, rumors circulated about a breed of "super rat" that was going to emerge from the flood. **Big cheese.** Metro talks with rodent experts to find out whether the monster rat tale holds any hint of truth that may harm NYC. PAGE 02

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1 NEWS

Quoted

"In light of the fact that this is Valentine's Week, when our minds turn to the pursuit of Amore, I see it is time for me to remind everyone of what I have warned in the past, if you are in public life, or hell, an anonymous existence, listen up. STOP TAKING PICTURES OF YOUR GENITALS! JUST STOP IT!"

State Sen. Diane Savino on her Facebook page

To our readers

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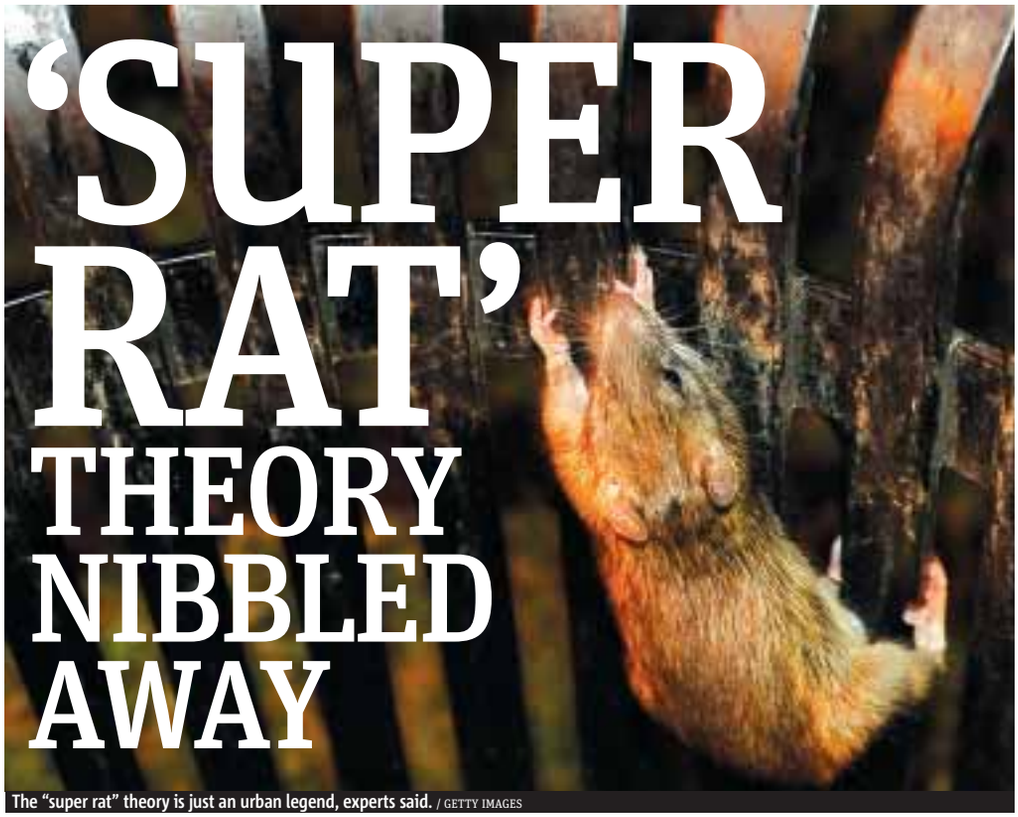
Metro wants to be your Valentine. We're sweetening the deal by giving away a free $50 Visa gift card to one lucky reader. Just "like" Metro New York on Facebook and enter our contest before Feb. 14 for a chance to win.

'SUPER RAT' THEORY NIBBLED AWAY



The "super rat" theory is just an urban legend, experts said. / GETTY IMAGES

Scavenger. Shortly after Superstorm Sandy hit, a story spread of a new breed of rat that would emerge from the destruction.

Rumors of a terrifying "super rat" plagued New Yorkers immediately after Superstorm Sandy. The urban legend spread online and via news outlets such as Fox News, Salon and the Scientific American, which all chimed in about the proposed threat.

The theory: Sandy would wipe out New York's weakest rats, the ones that couldn't swim hard enough or escape quickly enough from the floods. Those left standing would be the population's strongest rats, inevitably breeding a new "super rat."

So have there been sightings of abnormally large vermin, more bite victims or reports of suspiciously savvy rats?

Rest easy: The vermin are exactly the same as they always have been, according to Urban Rodentologist Bob Corrigan, who has monitored the city's rat population for years.

"Rats have been exposed to many natural disasters in different parts of Earth long before our cities were here," Corrigan said. "If they evolved each time to a stronger 'super rat,' by now we would be dealing with a virtually indestructible mammal."

Robert Sullivan, author of "Rats: Observations on the History and Habitat of the City's Most Unwanted Inhabitants," agrees, despite the amazing Hollywood potential of the "super rat" urban legend.

"I love rat theories, but very few of them hold water," Sullivan said. "When Sandy hit, people predicted hordes of rats would come racing out of the tunnels and attack us. That didn't happen, and it wouldn't happen because hordes of rats don't live in the tunnels. They live where people are and where people feed them scraps of bagels and potato chips."

That's not to say that the rat population wasn't affected by Sandy. Scores of them were wiped out, as evidenced by their bloated remains strewn along the city's shores in the days following the storm.

"Those that were in rat burrows close to the water's edge perished," Corrigan confirmed. "Sandy, just like Katrina in New Orleans several years ago, wiped out thousands of rats."

CASSANDRA GARRISON
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A more clever rat?

Kery Bruzzo, vice president of New York-based Green Earth Pest Control, said his company fielded several calls from people ahead of Sandy reporting a rat infestation for the first time, suggesting the rodents' survival instincts were kicking in as they tried to flee before the storm.

- Bruzzo, who said he has seen rats the size of a football in his career, acknowledged that while the post-storm rat size hasn't dramatically increased, the minds of today's population could be sharper having survived the storm.
- "If a rat does happen to get trapped but manages to escape or eats a non-fatal dose of rodenticide, they will avoid these items at all costs," he said.

Other problems

Another commonly reported concern was the spread of disease from the rats that did survive by scampering to new, drier grounds. That's another myth, according to Sullivan, who insisted rat problems are directly correlated with economics.

- "Neighborhoods with limited economic resources and limited political power are more likely to suffer from the plagues that rats bring," he said. "The ones that suffered during Sandy are going to have the same rats they did before; it's just going to be worse."

Lucky animals

"Some rats — just like humans, dogs, cats, cattle, etc. — were lucky enough to escape Earth's natural disasters. Some weren't."

Bob Corrigan

Tech

Google glasses
WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

NYPD assessing Google Glass

The NYPD might be taking "RoboCop" a little too seriously.

In December, police obtained two pairs of Google Glass specs for evaluation to determine if they might be useful to the department.

"The devices have not been deployed in any actual field or patrol operations, but rather are being assessed as to how they may be appropriately utilized or incorporated into any existing technology-based functions," NYPD Deputy Commissioner Stephen Davis said in a statement Friday.

Still, wary sci-fi fans need not worry: Police said the department regularly reviews new technology.

"The NYPD regularly conducts reviews of various equipment, devices, programs and other consumer products for their potential application or utility in the area of policing," Davis said.

ANNA SANDERS

In Brooklyn

Woman dies in extension cord fire

A fire sparked by an extension cord killed an 82-year-old woman in Brooklyn Saturday, police and FDNY said.

Feyga Geyman died after a fire broke out in her Brighton Beach home around 2:40 a.m.

Her 85-year-old husband was rushed to a hospital with burn trauma to his hands. **ANNA SANDERS**

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Punk rock

De Blasio meets with former Pussy Riot members

Mayor Bill de Blasio gabbed with former members of feminist Russian protest band Pussy Riot for an hour on Friday.

De Blasio and wife Chirlane McCray met with Maria "Masha" Alyokhina and Nadezhda Tolokonnikova, who closed their visit to New York City after performing at an Amnesty International show in Brooklyn. Alyokhina and Tolokonnikova were two of three Pussy Riot members arrested in 2012 after staging a protest show inside a Russian Church.

Mayor de Blasio meets with Pussy Riot. / MAYOR'S OFFICE

The pair was freed in December after 21 months in prison.

De Blasio celebrated his own freedom of speech before meeting the duo.

"Can I say Pussy Riot? Yes I can," he said.

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The online registry would keep track of people who have abused animals. / GETTY IMAGES

NYC to create registry for those who abuse pets

Woof. The database will make it harder for people who have a history of cruelty to animals to adopt a pet.

Placing dogs and cats in new homes can be a risky endeavor, but it will soon be easier for animal lovers and pet shops to make sure their furry friends find loving owners.

The New York City Council last week voted unanimously to override former Mayor Michael Bloomberg's veto and create a citywide database of animal abusers. Anyone convicted of animal abuse will be prohibited from having contact with animals for at least five years.

All shelters, breeders and pets stores in New York City will be required to look up prospective pet owners on the registry before selling an animal or facilitating an adoption.

"Up until now, there has been no official mechanism to prevent someone convicted of animal abuse from simply walking into a shelter or going on Craigslist and acquiring a new animal to abuse," the Animal Legal Defense Fund said in a statement.

The ALDF noted that animal hoarders — like the Long Island man found to be housing 75 animals in squalid conditions several years ago — are typically in need of mental health treatment.

In 2011, Nassau County in Long Island set up a hotline where citizens could report animal abuse.

EMILY JOHNSON
letters@metro.us

Man's best friend

The database will be citywide.

- Anyone convicted of animal abuse will not be allowed to have a pet for at least five years.
- Shelters and pet stores will have to check the database before they give or sell an animal to a prospective owner.
- City Council overrode Mayor Bloomberg's veto, and the bill is expected to be signed into law.

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MTA looks into 'Walking Dead' zombies prank

Brains. The viral marketing event was supposed to help kick off the return of the popular show.

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority is investigating a viral video promoting AMC's popular show "The Walking Dead" after the network placed "zombies" under a New York City subway grate to frighten pedestrians.

The video shows actors dressed as zombies grasping at the ankles of passersby near Union Square.

The video has had over 3.1 million views on YouTube since Wednesday.

Though a success from a marketing standpoint, it could come back to bite AMC, which reportedly failed to secure the permits for a commercial shoot in a public space.

"We are deeply troubled by this video," an MTA spokesman said. "We have forwarded it to the NYPD and are also conducting our own investigation."

A spokesperson for AMC said the investigation was the result of a "misunderstanding."

"We had all of the appropriate approvals from the city," said Marnie Black, AMC's senior vice president of public relations.

Union Square zombies
VIDEO STILL

EMILY JOHNSON
letters@metro.us

Dog show paws its way back to NYC

A Pomeranian leaps through an agility ring at the Masters Agility Championship as part of the kickoff to the Westminster Dog Show on Feb. 8 at Pier 94. The 138th annual Westminster Dog Show takes place today and tomorrow at Madison Square Garden. / GETTY IMAGES

Brooklyn

Pedestrian dies in hit-and-run

Police are looking for a truck that fatally struck a pedestrian in Brooklyn Friday.

Officials said a man was hit by a truck pulling out of a parking spot on Atlantic Avenue just after 3 p.m. while he was pushing a shopping cart on the roadway.

The driver fled the scene.

The truck is described as three-axle, has a dark-colored cab and straight flatbed with a boom.

Anyone with information is asked to call Crime Stoppers at 800-577-TIPS. **ANNA SANDERS**

Upper West Side

Train severely injures man

A 69-year-old man was left with serious leg injuries by an uptown A train Sunday. Officials said he was on the tracks at the 96th Street stop when the train pulled in around 1 a.m.

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Boehner has doubts

Sen. suggests quick approval, delayed enactment of immigration law

U.S. immigration reforms could be passed now but enacted after President Barack Obama leaves office if Republicans fear he will not enforce the new rules, a key Democratic senator said Sunday, offering a way to achieve one of Obama's main policy objectives.

Last week, Republican House Speaker John Boehner expressed doubts Obama's long-sought overhaul of immigration laws would be passed this year and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell said there was little interest in the issue with congressional elections looming in November. REUTERS

US adds new federal legal rights for same-sex spouses

Justice Dept. They will provide death and educational benefits through the Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program.

Gay marriage is currently legal in 17 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. / GETTY IMAGES

Same-sex married couples will receive many of the same federal legal protections and benefits as their opposite-sex counterparts under Justice Department guidelines to be issued today, Attorney General Eric Holder said.

The moves will affect procedures in U.S. courtrooms and the aid provided surviving spouses of slain law officers, among other matters.

The policy will "formally instruct all Justice Department employees to give lawful same-sex marriages full and equal recognition, to the greatest extent possible under the law," Holder said in remarks Saturday in New York City.

The change will apply to same-sex couples residing in states where such marriages are not recognized. It also represents the first time the Justice Department has officially interpreted the words "spouse" and "marriage" in federal laws it enforces to apply to same-sex couples.

Under the policy, the Justice Department will recognize that same-sex couples are entitled to the same rights as their opposite-sex counterparts in civil and criminal cases, according to Holder. As a result, Holder said, federal prosecutors won't object if a same-sex spouse declines to provide testimony that might incriminate his or her partner.

Other beneficiaries will include federal inmates who are part of a same-sex marriage. They will be permitted to have spousal visits and to be escorted to their partners' funerals, Holder said. BLOOMBERG

Quoted

"As attorney general, I will not let this department be simply a bystander during this important moment in history."
Holder

Utah

1K

Holder last month declared the federal government would recognize about 1,000 same-sex marriages performed in Utah.

Backed

52%

In a Gallup Poll released last July, 52 percent of Americans backed laws permitting gay marriage, up from 27 percent in 1996.

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Global warming slowdown due to Pacific winds: Study

Change. The average September temperature since 1998 has increased at less than half the rate since 1951.

The scientists used computer models and weather data to determine the effect of the stronger winds on ocean circulation. / GETTY IMAGES

Stronger Pacific Ocean winds may help explain the slowdown in the rate of global warming since the turn of the century, scientists said. More powerful winds in the past 20 years may be forcing warmer seas deeper and bringing cooler water to the surface, researchers from the U.S. and Australia said Sunday in the journal Nature. That has cooled the average global temperature by as much as 0.2 degree Celsius since 2001.

Scientists have been trying to find out why the rate of global warming has eased in the past 20 years while greenhouse-gas emissions have surged to record levels.

"The net effect of these anomalous winds is a cooling in the 2012 global average surface air temperature of 0.1–0.2 degree Celsius, which can account for much of the hiatus in surface warming observed since 2001," the researchers wrote. They're led by Matthew England, a professor of oceanography at the University of New South Wales in Australia.

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change said in September that the average temperature since 1998 has increased at less than half the rate since 1951.

"This hiatus could persist for much of the present decade if the tradewind trends continue; however, rapid warming is expected to resume once the anomalous wind trends abate," the authors of today's study said. "Volcanoes and changes in solar radiation can also drive cooler decades against the backdrop of ongoing warming," they said. **BLOOMBERG**

Degrees

0.05

The world has warmed by an average 0.05 degree per decade since 1998, compared with the 1951-2012 average of 0.12 degree a decade, the UNIPCC said.

Markets watching

As Yellen makes Fed debut, expect theater, not fireworks

Janet Yellen's first test as chair of the Federal Reserve comes on Tuesday when she faces U.S. lawmakers, some hostile to the central bank, who will want to know how committed she is to winding down the Fed's support for the economy.

With the world's financial markets watching, Yellen, who succeeded Ben Bernanke last week, will have a chance to set a mostly upbeat tone and point to signs of steady economic progress, despite some recent bumps in the road.

The Fed has embarked on of its most difficult policy shift after five years of ultra-easy money. It has begun scaling back its bond-buying stimulus at a measured pace that could frustrate Republicans who think the program is reckless. **REUTERS**

Positive. Democrats promote Obamacare and work hours drop

Democrats sought to turn the latest controversy over Obamacare and the economy into a positive political message on Sunday by casting an expected decline in American work hours as a boon to worker freedom and family values.

In a new partisan tussle over election messaging that is likely to color this year's congressional mid-term campaign, Democratic lawmakers said a predicted drop in work hours brought about by Obamacare would mean more family time for mothers, more study opportunities for college students and less job stress for older workers. **REUTERS**

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Winter Olympics.
US sweeps slopestyle, but flops in downhill

Medal count

	G	S	B	T
1. Norway	2	1	4	7
2. Holland	2	1	1	4
USA	2	0	2	4
Russia	1	2	1	4
Canada	1	2	1	4
6. Austria	1	1	0	2
Sweden	0	2	0	2
Czech R.	0	1	1	2
Italy	0	1	1	2

1 An exuberant **Kamil Stoch** of Poland flew by the competition in men's normal hill ski jumping. No Americans qualified for the final.

2 Germany's **Felix Loch** was equally excited, even if it was old hat for him. Loch won men's singles luge for the second straight Olympics.

3 American **Jamie Anderson** swept snowboard slopestyle for the U.S., winning gold with a 95.25 score in her second run. The U.S.'s Sage Kotsenburg won slopestyle for the men on Day 1.

4 **Meryl Davis** and **Charlie White** of the U.S. continued their ice dancing dominance, winning the free skate in the team competition Sunday. But it was Team Russia who won gold in the overall competition led by 15-year-old sensation Yulia Lipnitskaya, with the U.S. taking bronze.

5 **Bode Miller** was a bust in the men's downhill, finishing eighth despite dominating in practice. Austria's Matthias Mayer won gold. Travis Ganong (fifth) was the highest-finishing American.

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First competitions about 80 percent full, officials say

Safety. Organizers say it's logistical issues, not security concerns keeping people away.

Spectators watch the warm-up ahead of the Ladies' Moguls Final 1 on day one of the Sochi 2014 Winter Olympics. / GETTY IMAGES

Sochi Olympic organizers say that some visitors didn't make it to their seats in this weekend's opening round of competitions, leaving about 80 percent of tickets used on the initial day of Russia's first Winter Games.

Local organizing committee's spokeswoman Alexandra Kosterina said Saturday that 92 percent of tickets were sold for the Feb. 8 sessions. The games, which opened on Friday, have been hampered by concerns over possible terrorist attacks and unfinished building projects.

About 30,000 people came to the two Olympic parks on the opening day of competition, she said. The games are organized over two sites about 19 miles apart — one next to the Black Sea where ice events are held, the other in the mountains to host skiing and sliding competitions. The opening day featured action including medals in speedskating, snowboard slopestyle and three other sports. BLOOMBERG

Security

40K

Russia sent more then 40,000 police and security agents to seal off Sochi until the end of the games.

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One year later

After resigning, Benedict has no regrets

A year after his shock resignation, Pope Emeritus Benedict has no regrets and believes history will vindicate his tumultuous and much-criticized papacy, the man closest to him said.

Archbishop Georg Ganswein, who now works for the former pope and is the head of Pope Francis' household, shed new light on how Benedict spends his days, his health, his feelings about his momentous decision and the relationship between the two popes.

"Pope Benedict is at peace with himself, and I think he is even at peace with the Lord," said Ganswein, whose twin roles bring him into contact with the current and former pope daily.

Benedict announced his decision to resign, the first pope to do so in 600 years, on Feb. 11, 2013, citing the physical and psychological strains of the papacy. REUTERS

Holocaust memorial

Hungarian Jews threaten boycott of events

Hungary's main Jewish group voted on Sunday to boycott official Holocaust commemorations this year unless they more clearly show the role of local citizens in the Nazi deportation and killing of Hungarian Jews.

The Hungarian Jewish Congregations' Association (Mazsihisz) decided to stay away from events marking the 70th anniversary of June 1944, when 437,000 Jews were sent to Nazi death camps within weeks, and set conditions for a change of position.

Mazsihisz chairman Andras Heisler said the group objected to plans for a Holocaust monument and memorial center in Budapest. REUTERS

By the numbers

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In total, about half a million Jews perished before the Budapest ghetto was liberated in 1945.

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College aid. Michelle Obama gets the word out about the FAFSA

The Obama administration enlisted the help of first lady Michelle Obama in an effort to ensure that low- and middle-income families get access to federal aid to help them pay for college.

Last week, she urged students and their parents to take advantage of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, the form is used to determine eligibility for financial aid.

MICHELLE OBAMA
GETTY IMAGES

"Too many students don't even bother to apply for college because they don't think they'll ever be able to afford it," Obama told students at an Alexandria, Va., high school.

Obama, who has often spoken of relying on student loans to pay for her undergraduate degree at Princeton, says she filled out the FAFSA with her mother's help and worked at a day-care center while in college through a work-study program. She urged students to work with their parents and teachers to fill out the forms as early as possible.

Last year, only half of high school seniors filled out the FAFSA form, according to the Department of Education. Many of those who did not were from poor families. REUTERS

Calculating the bottom line can make the college search simpler. /COLOURBOX

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Future by URL

See more at www.metro.us

Tech. A new site helps students run the numbers.

It's a complicated and expensive world out there for students searching for the right college. As technology revolutionizes everything from textbooks to professorships, a new website just out of beta testing looks to help students' college dollars stretch further.

With Plus-U.com, students and their parents calculate their ROE — return on education — to make sure that the price tag of an acceptance letter will be worth it in the long run.

Using student surveys, data from the Department of Education and average salaries, Plus-U points would-be college attendees toward schools that match their specifications for things like location and culture as well.

The site considers students' interests as well as their wallets. /PROVIDED

As the parent of a high school sophomore, Tom O'Keefe wants to think ahead about his daughter Reegan's college opportunities. "I think it's pretty overwhelming. The first thing you feel is a little bit of fear, because of the expense," he says of the search for a college education that won't lead to mountains of debt. Reegan's interest in science and math led them to consider nursing schools. Reegan, for her part, says the site helped her discover colleges that she hadn't considered. "I like envisioning myself in college," she says, "it's an exciting part of your life" — especially for a promising student like Reegan, who is quick to remind her dad that she speaks three languages, not two.

The site's focus on the bottom line is a big draw for families looking for more than a cash-strapped future. Brad McMahon, the site's senior vice president, says that Plus-U will refine as it expands: "As we get more data and specifically tie [in] where students go to school, graduate, etc., our matching models and algorithm will improve."

College can come with a scary price tag — calculating the return on education just might make sure it's worth it.

JULIA FURLAN
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2 CULTURE

Twitter feed

We check in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Sofia Vergara can't be trusted on set, Pam Grier is ready for a party, Niall Horan is in desperate need of a tan and Tom Hanks is checking out some roller coasters.

@SofiaVergara: I eat props

@PamGrier: NBA Jam Allstars and Mardi Gras will rock in New Orleans in a few days! Carnival! La la la la, la la la la.....

@NiallOfficial: Just seen a recent picture of myself, get me on a plane to somewhere hot quick!! #WhiteAsAsheet

@tomhanks: Research for a job. Really. Riding Colossus twice. Then Magic Mountain!

Shia LaBeouf is going through a meltdown

Welcome to the deep end, Shia LaBeouf.

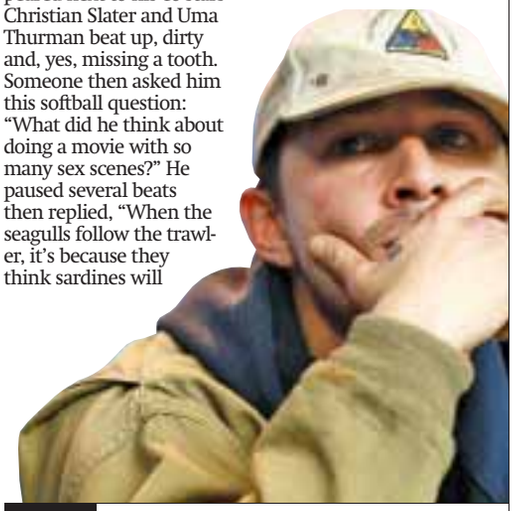
The actor, who has had quite the time of it these past few months with the Daniel Clowes plagiarism scandal (in December it was announced that LaBeouf's new short film, "HowardCantour.com," was basically lifted from a comic by the "Ghost World" author), is racking up more weirdness points after showing up at a press conference for "Nymphomaniac" in Berlin on Sunday looking filthy, "missing a lower tooth," and then storming out after saying a nonsensical quote. Oh, and then he later showed up on the red carpet with a bag on his head.

Per The Hollywood Reporter, LaBeouf appeared next to his co-stars Christian Slater and Uma Thurman beat up, dirty and, yes, missing a tooth. Someone then asked him this softball question: "What did he think about doing a movie with so many sex scenes?" He paused several beats then replied, "When the seagulls follow the trawler, it's because they think sardines will be thrown into the sea. Thank you very much." He then left the room while his co-stars looked on.

At first, everyone thought that LaBeouf actually said something not plagiarized for once but that dream was quickly erased when some savvy journos found out it was a line from the 2009 film "Looking for Eric."

He then showed up on the red carpet later with the bag on his head.

Look, LaBeouf. We're not sure what is going on here other than we've already gone through the antics of Joaquin Phoenix and that is enough for one decade. It is just so painful when someone who is not deep nor intellectual tries really hard to appear deep and intellectual, right?



Quoted

"When the seagulls follow the trawler, it's because they think sardines will be thrown into the sea."

Shia LaBeouf, pretending to be very deep indeed

THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson takes on the world of gossip.

DOROTHY ROBINSON
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Talking points

Chris Martin isn't California dreaming.

Martin is miserable in LA

Chris Martin has reportedly been miserable since moving with wife Gwyneth Paltrow to Los Angeles so that she could be closer to friends and family, according to Radar Online. "Chris has told Gwyneth he wants to move back to his native England with their two children, Apple and Moses, once the school year is over," a source says. "He hasn't been happy living in Los Angeles because Chris just isn't into the Hollywood scene. Chris now recognizes that Gwyneth doesn't need to be living in Los Angeles for her career."

Tax woes for Jackson family

According to the IRS, Michael Jackson's estate severely undervalued the singer's worth at the time of his death, and now they are looking for the family to pay up — to the tune of $702 million. Jackson's estate initially placed the late singer's worth at $7 million, stating the value of his likeness was a mere $2,105 and the value of his interest in his music as well as the Beatles' catalog was a great big zero. But according to documents filed by the IRS last week, the agency puts his likeness at $434 million and his interest in the catalogs at $469 million.

'The X Factor' gets X'd

See ya later, "The X Factor."

Fox announced on Friday that the reality singing competition is toast after its third season. The timing was very suspect with host Simon Cowell announcing earlier that day he will be leaving the show to return to the much more popular U.K. version.

So was Cowell just saving face by exiting a sinking ship before he could be blamed? Or did Fox think they couldn't continue the failing show without him? In any case, 12 years of Simon Cowell in the U.S. seems just like enough.

Bye-bye, Simon Cowell
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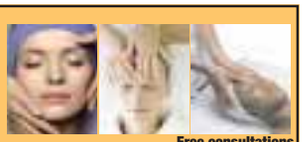

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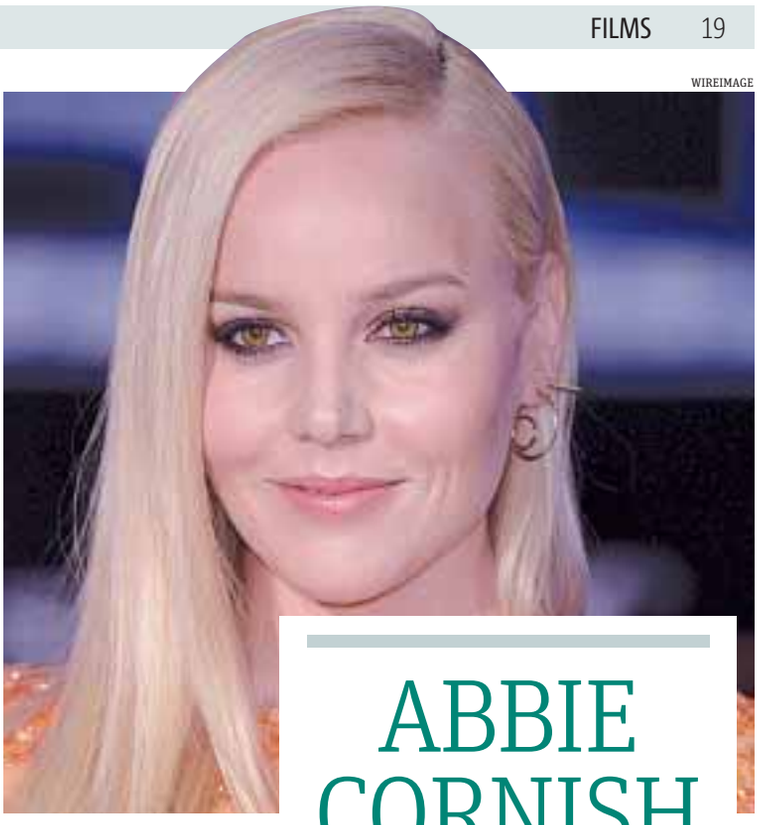

WIREIMAGE

ABBIE CORNISH

The actress stars in a remake of one of her very favorite films: "RoboCop."

DIFFERENT ENOUGH

Abbie Cornish has fond memories of the original "RoboCop," having grown up in Australia watching, re-watching and eventually wearing out a VHS copy of the 1987 film at far too young an age, thanks to her older brothers. So she hopes other fans of Paul Verhoeven's ultra-violent action flick will take her involvement in Jose Padilha's PG-13 remake as a major vote of confidence.

It was a different time, when you had to worry about VHS tapes wearing out.
And it was so devastating when they did — or if they tore! And sometimes you couldn't replace them either. It seems so silly — 10 years later I'd be trying to find another VHS of "RoboCop," and you can't. It's like all of a sudden it becomes a collector's item. It's different now.

What were some of your favorite parts of the original?
I mean, that scene is crazy when he goes in on his own and he gets blown apart. I know it sounds really violent — because I was, like, 5 or 6 when I watched that — but that scene is just insane. It's really classic. I love that movie. I really enjoyed watching it again. I watched it a couple of times before we made the movie, and people were like, "Don't do that!" I was like, "But I love it!"

Plus, this version is pretty different from the original.
Yeah, it's different. It's a whole different entity. Look, I really hope that the people who are skeptical about the film and are saying that they're not going to watch it because "we love the original 'RoboCop' and they shouldn't have re-made it!" I really hope that they go to the cinemas and watch it because I think that they'll be pleasantly surprised.

The default position of any remake is skepticism though.
I guess so. Maybe I've just never been privy to it. [Laughs] We retell stories all the time. Sometimes they're very well done and sometimes not so well done, so I can understand people's skepticism about that as well.

NED EHRBAR
ned.ehrbar@metro.lu

The actors studio

Role play

What are some of your favorite tricks of the trade for tapping into a character?
I listen to a lot of music while I work. I usually make a playlist for each film that sums up what that character's journey is throughout the film, so I can always go back to it. Basically it's like home. Or sometimes if I feel a bit lost on the way to work in regard to what we're doing, I'll pull up a Turner painting and just stare at it for half an hour, and that will just give me something for the day. Because sometimes, to be honest, I don't know what I'm doing — as an actor — and I like that feeling.

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‘DIE, MONSTER, DIE!’ TURNS H.P. LOVECRAFT INTO DRIVE-IN TRASH

Netflix Instant

‘The Square’

The grassroots Egyptian revolution that began in 2011 is still going, so there will one day be a distanced, purely expository (and frankly pretty dry) doc about the whole thing. Until then, there’s current Oscar nominee “The Square,” which may already be dated, but feels very much in the moment, due to it featuring footage shot during protests.

“The Square” portrays Egypt’s revolution. / NETFLIX

‘Die, Monster, Die!’

$19.97
Shout! Factory

Despite being one of the preeminent horror writers, H.P. Lovecraft has been rewarded with too few notable film adaptations. His work is filled with creeping insinuations, choking mood, deep conspiracies and — the main problem — too few thrills. That didn’t stop sleaze titans Roger Corman and Samuel Arkoff. Starting with 1960’s “House of Usher,” the pair hit wild success turning the work of Edgar Allan Poe into a run of faux-tony (read: still cheap and lurid) horrors, usually with Vincent Price.

They must have figured Lovecraft would be next, and so came 1965’s “Die, Monster, Die!,” very loosely based on his short “The Colour Out of Space.” Little of it is particularly Lovecraftian, and the film tries to hammer the author into a more familiar horror movie shape. Nick Adams plays an American who visits the creepy English mansion of a wheelchaired (and very grumpy) Boris Karloff, who likes to retire to the basement to do vague experiments with a glowing green source.

The film does its best to dilute its source into something a 1960s teen could enjoy, and this faithlessness is its downfall and its salvation: It’s a so-so Lovecraft movie (albeit better than most) but absolutely serviceable trash.

DISC JOCKEY
MATT PRIGGE
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Boris Karloff stars in the adaptation of H.P. Lovecraft’s “The Colour

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Out of Space," which was renamed "Die, Monster, Die!" / SHOUT! FACTORY

Also out

'Ender's Game'

Remorseless homophobe Orson Scott Card claimed he wouldn't see any profits from the film of his 1985 signature novel, about kids sculpted into warriors against an alien foe. So if you must, see the movie, skip the book.

'Death Wish'

Charles Bronson at his mustachiest plays a liberal architect turned annihilator of creeps. As morally abhorrent entertainment goes, it's no "Death Wish 3."

TV watch list

DOG SHOW

'Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show'

Westminster is like the Oscars of puppy pageants. It's a very big deal, if you're into that kind of thing. Tonight's opening night coverage of the 138th annual show includes showings of the hound and toy groups. **8 P.M., CNBC**

REALITY

'The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills'

Kim continues to harass Lisa for not attending her daughter's graduation party. Get over it, Kim; you're being weird. Also, Lisa is too busy with two Bravo shows to attend a teen's party. **8 P.M., BRAVO**

ALEXANDRA CAVALLO

REALITY

'The Bachelor'

The playing field narrows! Tonight, just eight women are left to compete for the grand prize: getting married to a man they hardly know. Juan Pablo and the hopeful ladies travel to New Zealand to engage in completely normal dating activities, like an extreme sports competition — you know, the usual. **8 P.M., ABC**

Only eight women remain in the battle to win this random dude's heart. / ABC, CRAIG SJODIN

Box office. Everything is awesome for 'The Lego Movie,' at least

"The Lego Movie," an animated film based on the colorful plastic children's blocks, snapped up $69.1 million in ticket sales to top weekend box office charts, easily beating the George Clooney World War II film "The Monuments Men."

"The Monuments Men," which also stars Matt Damon, Bill Murray and John Goodman, was second with $22.7 million in sales at U.S. and Canadian theaters. The film is based on the true story of U.S. soldiers who rescued art masterpieces from Nazi thieves.

After three consecutive weeks in the top spot, the Kevin Hart-Ice Cube comedy "Ride Along" took third with $9.4 million, according to data supplied by Rentrak.

The weekend's only other major new release, "Vampire Academy," based on the first book in the "Vampire Academy" series by fantasy author Richelle Mead, opened in the No. 7 spot with $4.1 million in sales.

Apparently Batman, as seen in "The Lego Movie," is box office gold. Who knew? / WARNER BROS. PICTURE

Top 5 earners

1. **'The Lego Movie'** $69.1 million
2. **'The Monuments Men'** $22.7 million
3. **'Ride Along'** $9.4 million
4. **'Frozen'** $6.9 million
5. **'That Awkward Moment'** $5.5 million

Rounding out the top five, Disney's long-running musical "Frozen" took fourth place with $6.9 million, while "That Awkward Moment" was fifth, collecting $5.5 million in sales. "Frozen" has racked up $369 million since its November debut.

"Lone Survivor," the tale of four U.S. Navy SEALs who run into an ambush in Afghanistan, was sixth with sales of $5.3 million. It has generated $112.6 million over seven weeks. **REUTERS**

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New York FW fall

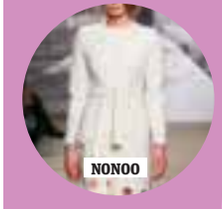
PLUS

Fashion trends

Robe coat

ALTUZARRA

RICHARD CHAI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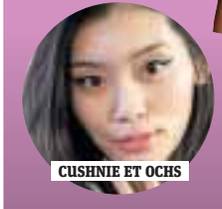
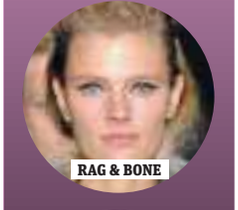
Beauty trends

Cat eye


CUSHNIE ET OCHS


RAG & BONE

CHRISTIAN SIRIANO

RAG & BONE

The scene

Peter Som

On each showgoer's seat is a box containing three Zoya nail lacquers that were used on the models. It's a sweet little surprise, although most editors are too cool to take a goodie bag.

- **Major Trends:** Tailored dresses, feathers, layering with a white shirt, pea coats
- **What this will mean for your wardrobe:** Feathers are going to be a thing.

PETER SOM

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

The scene

Rag & Bone

A sea of black and gray, made up of "it" bloggers galore (Leandra Medine, The Blonde Salad's Chiara Ferragni, Hanneli Mustaparta, etc.) and power editors.

- **The playlist:** Dancehall ruled the pre-show, but then it was all high-energy instrumentals
- **Major trends:** Shaggy outerwear, loose grunge-inspired layering
- **What this will mean for your wardrobe:** You'll want your coats and jackets nubby.

Fashion Week diary

Follow our editors' diaries as they take you behind the scenes of NYFW.

Friday

10:25 a.m.
Here's the thing: Fashion shows rarely start when they are supposed to, so editors factor this in when calculating their travel time. But these days, if you're late, a slew of hungry bloggers will plop themselves on any open seat until they get busted, like the guy currently in my place at **Peter Som**. As soon as the "excuse me" flies out of my mouth, he's up and moving.

10:30 a.m.
Once settled, I notice the pretty blonde across from me is in fact Carrie Underwood. The other thing I notice — she's not wearing any stockings with her pink dress. Ah, to have door-to-door car service.

10:35 a.m.
Once the lights dim, we're off to Paris in the '60s. Models with coquettish messy hair and bangs pinned to the side (think: Jane Birkin's innocent/sexy look in "La Piscine") sprint down the runway to French disco. Their mod-inspired looks — tailored wool dresses, leopard-print minis, fuzzy crop tops and printed pea coats cinched at the waist — are the perfect antidote to drab office attire. Then we hit the party scene in, say, St. Tropez? Flirty feather skirts, breezy chiffon dresses and one show-stopping floral floor-sweeper take center stage. They're just what you want to pack when it's time to escape the arctic temps and lounge pool side somewhere. TINA CHADHA

12 p.m.
In contrast to a classic runway show, presentations are a laid-back affair. Models line up on a stage while editors and buyers walk around analyzing the collection — hopefully, with a glass of champagne in hand, as is the case at **Kate Spade**, today.

12:10 p.m.
And lest you think the models are being tortured, an assistant is currently walking around offering each one water and candy. Yes, candy. A sugar rush puts you in the perfect state of being for Kate Spade's fall collection, which exudes girly delight. Deborah Lloyd

Kate Spade

The scene

Kate Spade

Waiters pass out bubbly, skewers with berries, canapes and mini eclairs to the delight of starved editors (no one has time to eat during this crazy week) who are catching up with fellow fashion friends and, of course, Instagramming away. Models standing still make our job so much easier.

- **The Playlist:** Upbeat dance music. One model literally busts out all her club moves.
- **Major trends:** Feathers, navy, leopard, jeweled blouses, the bucket hat
- **What this will mean for your wardrobe:** You can look ladylike and have fun, too.

2014 gets cozy

Suno

The scene

Suno

Fashion with a capital "F." No reality show stars or even Hollywood celebrities here. Just the diehards.

- **The Playlist:** Something with strong beats and soothing vocals that sounds kind of like everything you hear at Fashion Week.
- **Major Trends:** Raw edges, slouchy silhouettes, ponchos, brocade, brogues
- **What this will mean for your wardrobe:** Bring out the brocade! And the ponchos!

cites a recent trip to Tokyo as her starting point, and the electric lights of the city are seen in a section of brights such as the vibrant blue topper coat with grass green trousers and, more literally, on a clutch with the words 'Hello, Tokyo' written in multi-colors. As I walk through the neutral section, inspired by Shanghai, and a more dressy vignette of inky navys, I notice all the latest trends: polka dots, feathers, jeweled appliques. Only this irresistible collection will be more wallet-friendly than its runway contemporaries. Take note, ladies! **TC**

5:15 p.m.
Rag & Bone always begins its show with a treat. Guests are inhaling powdered doughnuts, comfort food on a freezing day. So much for all of those New Year's health kicks, eh?

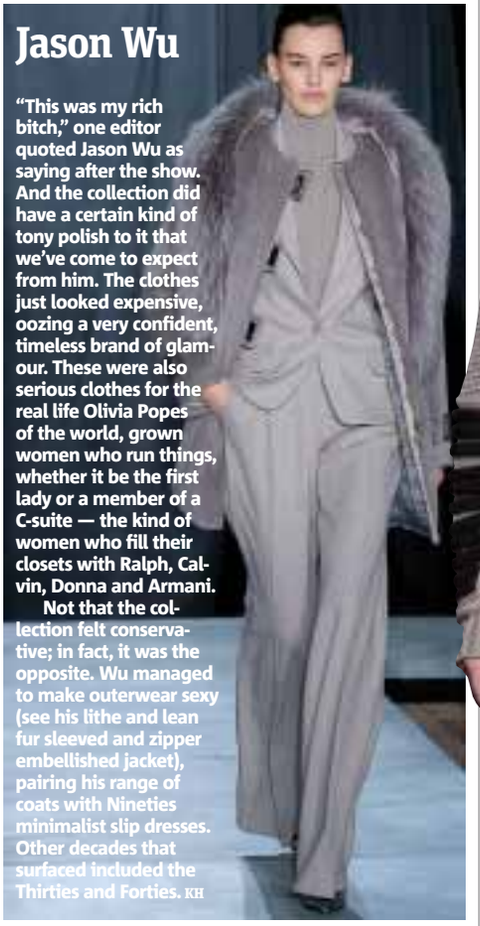
5:30 p.m.
I'm really curious to know what cultural references creative directors Marcus Wainwright and David Neville had for this collection. The names embroidered on the back of Joan Smalls and Georgia May Jagger's bowling jackets are pure 1950s, "Happy Days" kitsch. Meanwhile, the knits look very Cosby sweater-ish, with a little Nineties, Biggie Smalls and "Coogi sweater now" mixed in. And yet, the collection doesn't feel retro. Instead, it looks like a natural extension of the cool, urban uniform they've already established in past seasons with a range of tailoring in paint splattered graphics, slouchy silk dresses and shaggy, textured outerwear in plaids and checks. All the layering, wool and shearling is so polar vortex-appropriate. These are exactly the kinds of things a girl would want to wear right now. But I can't say the same for the footwear, which distracts from the ease of the clothes. Slouchy, drawstring knee-high leather boots, really?
KENYA HUNT

7:50 p.m.
Ten minutes till showtime at **Suno** and we're still shivering outside in the cold in the industrial no man's land that is the Westside. Amazingly, there are ladies standing among the ice drifts wearing strappy stilettos and no coats. #Fashion.

8:40 p.m.
The lights dim and out walks out a ... course gray sack cinched with shoelaces? What?

8:45 p.m.
OK, things liven up a bit. The sacks morph into comfy wool robes and ponchos and the colors go from murky to vibrant, including brilliant blue, wine, gold and purple. Satin shifts and knit dresses burst into a kaleidoscope of stripes, and of course there is Suno's trademark high-level pattern-mixing. The line-up ends with shimmering gold brocades worthy of Gustav Klimt. However, it's the tasseled patent leather brogues that were the most drool-worthy items.
RAQUEL LANERI

Jason Wu



"This was my rich bitch," one editor quoted Jason Wu as saying after the show. And the collection did have a certain kind of tony polish to it that we've come to expect from him. The clothes just looked expensive, oozing a very confident, timeless brand of glamour. These were also serious clothes for the real life Olivia Popes of the world, grown women who run things, whether it be the first lady or a member of a C-suite — the kind of women who fill their closets with Ralph, Calvin, Donna and Armani.

Not that the collection felt conservative; in fact, it was the opposite. Wu managed to make outerwear sexy (see his lithe and lean fur sleeved and zipper embellished jacket), pairing his range of coats with Nineties minimalist slip dresses. Other decades that surfaced included the Thirties and Forties. KH

Saturday

12:20 p.m.
An attention-grabbing man has just tried to streak the runway, wearing only a G-string. Drama! But the guy (a protestor? animal rights activist? stray crazy?) barely captures our attention because we're all too busy scrutinizing **Prabal**'s artful reinventions of the trouser suit, which he's slashed, twisted and draped to beautiful effect, and his many multi-layered Mongolian wool, fur and silk looks. When a collection has the power to overshadow a naked running man, you know you've done good.

12:45 p.m.
I'm backstage and staring at Prabal's mood board, with its photographs of Tibetan men and women dressed in traditional garb in deep reds, the slouchy, elegant ease of his collection makes sense. On the one hand, the work has a dressiness that seems to have carried over from the hyper-feminine glamour he showed last season — and yet these clothes were completely different. In short: The relaxed shapes of his slouchy trousers, draped skirts and oversized outerwear look much easier to have on than the 1950s pin-up corsets and wiggle skirts that defined spring '14. And all of this new wearability shows technical and creative growth, with the elaborate wrapping, draping and swaddling echoing the traditional chubas worn by the villagers in Mustang, Nepal, that served as his original point of inspiration. It's his best collection to date. **KH**

The scene

Prabal Gurung

Anna Wintour, Karolina Kurkova, Carolina Herrera, Hailee Steinfeld and a slew of editors, stylists and agents.

- **The major trends:** Layering, contrasting textures, shaggy furs
- **What this will mean for your wardrobe:** Pay zero attention to the street-style set braving the cold in bare legs and sandals; warm, chunky layers is where it's at.

Backstage Prabal is talking about diversity on the runway. "It's a shame that this is still an issue," he tells longtime model advocate Bethann Hardison. But his runway casting, which included Ophelie Guillermand, Malaika Firth, Maria Borges, Ming Xi, Tilda Lindstam, Binx Walton and Sharam Diniz, proves that it's possible to show a wide range of beauty in a way that feels organic, rather than forced.

Fashion Week diary continued

Saturday, continued

1:10 p.m.
Zosia Mamet is wearing the tightest white jeans ever. The "Girls" star is sitting front row at **Rebecca Taylor** alongside DJ Chelsea Leyland and Song of Style's Aimee Song. Besides the occasional photographer snapping pictures of the ladies, things are pretty Zen this afternoon.

1:30 p.m.
Taylor cites French graffiti artist Philippe Baudelocque's delicate chalk figures on gritty Parisian corners as her inspiration. Like his work, she played with contrasts: a tough quilted flight jacket paired with elegant trousers, an ethereal pale cocktail dress constructed from cracked leather, slouchy floral jacquard pants with brawny shearling. For the past few seasons, Taylor has been working to move her brand away from its frilly, girly reputation and into cooler, edgier territory. Today's collection, with its intermingling of textures and patterns (blurred florals on scuba materials), soft color palette and surprise fabrics (mesh and pretty sheer panels), delivers the perfect balance of grit and femme. Those sexy metal necklaces certainly help, too. **TC**

2:15 p.m.
The lineup for **Herve Leger** inside Lincoln Center is Black Friday long— strange, even for Fashion Week. After a few minutes of not moving, the crowd, including top editors and bloggers who don't do waiting — especially in 5-inch heels — lobby, "But I'm so-and-so," to any show employee who walks by.

2:20 p.m.
No movement. It's clear something is up. The smell of overdone hamburgers coming from one of the new lounges isn't helping this non-glamorous situation.

2:25 p.m.
People are leaving. I'm two seconds away from doing the same when someone — showgoer? security? who knows — just lifts the partition and we flood in.

2:40 p.m.
Has the sexy girl calmed down? Covered-up, ladylike renditions of the brand's signature slinky bandage dresses are coming down the runway. Full sleeves, knee lengths with fringed skirts, peplum tops and a slightly A-line silhouette give the typical red carpet knockouts a refined feel. Hell, Helen Mirren might even show up on the red carpet in one of these. (Not the bandage jacquard jumpsuit though, that curve-hugging number is all

Rebecca Taylor

Herve Leger

The scene

Mara Hoffman

The scene: Pamela Love, Nigel Barker, Whitney Port and a bunch of really pretty people who are probably "Internet famous."

- **The major trends:** Hoods, sequins, ponchos, fringe, and the 1970s!
- **What this will mean for your wardrobe:** Honestly, probably nothing, but it's sure pretty to look at!

Beyonce.) Also new to the lineup is the show-stealing outerwear. Bulky coats in fox fur and exotic feathers look like they'd need their own seat in a cab, but also give the collection an urban warrior feel.

But it wouldn't be an Herve Leger show without a nod to the subversive, and there are plenty of cage-corset belts, deep-V cutouts and slinky beaded numbers, so that when the Siberian jacket comes off, everyone is drooling over this girl. **TC**

3:15 p.m.
Mara Hoffman has a type, and she's here in the row right in front of me: free-spirited and not afraid to wear tie-dye or feathers in her hair. Jewelry designer Pamela Love waltzes in, along with a posse of boho babes.

3:30 p.m.
Lots of floppy wide-brimmed hats in the crowd. Yup, the '70s are totally trending. Notes say the collection is inspired by the art, landscapes, textiles and jewelry of Northern Africa (think: Morocco, Egypt).

3:40 p.m.
Riotous patchwork patterns, badass warrior-like arm bangles, psychedelic lunar prints, fringed "shaman" cloaks, chiffon veils embroidered in silver seed beads: This collection is B-A-N-A-N-A-S, like what a high priestess would wear if she lived in Vegas — or Boca Raton, in the case of a loose chiffon dashiki adorned with sequined palm fronds. (Trust: This is a good thing.) A fringed neoprene sweater, a geometric-print poncho, and a checkered wool coat provide a half-hearted attempt to push this collection more squarely in the "Fall/Winter" realm. But that's OK: Superwomen don't need to concern themselves with such banal matters as body temperature. **RL**

The scene

Rebecca Taylor

Right as Taylor bows, Mamet and her tight pants make a dash for the door — the models are barely off the runway. Editors are confused and put off by this, "Who does she think she is, Anna Wintour?" I hear one say.

- **The playlist:** Upbeat girly jams including a remix of Destiny's Child's "Bootylicious."
- **The major trends:** Texture, cocoon coats, jacquard, navy
- **What this will mean for your wardrobe:** Go ahead and wear that flirty dress with a boxy, boyish jacket.

The scene

Herve Leger

"The equipment to check people in broke down," informs my seatmate. Coco Rocha then strides in distracting everyone with her fashion cowboy outfit: A Fausto Puglisi black moto with spangled showy gold beading on the sleeves and a really wide-brimmed hat. Everything is better.

- **The playlist:** "Mayria" (The Exaltics remix)
- **The major trends:** Beading, pleats, fur, warrior-like knee high boots
- **What this will mean for your wardrobe:** Be sexy— and warm. You can seriously do both.

4:15 p.m.
After waiting outside in the cold for 10 minutes (these hipper-than-thou Westside venues!), I

The scene

Alexander Wang

3001: A Brooklyn Space Odyssey

- The major trends: Plays on texture, bold colors, deconstructed work wear
- The scene: Every major editor, stylist, blogger, insider-type, per usual
- The playlist: Bass-heavy instrumentals and a remix of "Get Like Me," by Nelly and Pharrell
- **What this will mean for your wardrobe:** A new direction for work wear, which could look sportier and more urban.

No sleep till Brooklyn

8:35 p.m.
"I don't like being trapped in situations like this," the driver mutters as we slowly make our way through the Brooklyn Navy Yard to **Alexander Wang**'s show. It feels like foreshadowing. The runway venue is deep in the compound, and I can't imagine how we're going to get out once the show ends.

8:50 p.m.
Inside, Beyonce's "Partition" is playing — owwwww. The show venue doesn't look hugely different from the elaborate sets Alexander Wang staged at the various Piers in Manhattan where he's shown before. People are carrying flasks emblazoned with the Alexander Wang logo, gifts being given out at the bar. I'm sure they'll come in handy at his after-party later tonight, but so far I see nothing particularly earth-shattering to warrant the far-out show location. The only thing groundbreaking about the night so far is the fact that this is all happening in Brooklyn in the first place.

9:10 p.m.
Karlie Kloss, Joan Smalls, Jourdan Dunn and co. are rotating on a giant, moving disk in the middle of the runway, wearing bold paisley shearling jackets and Bermuda shorts in what appears to be a leather-like textile that changes colors as they move. In print that sounds gimmicky, but on the runway it looks technically impressive and cool. The entire collection, with all of its techy, inventive interpretations of work wear (a charcoal gray knee-length trouser suit with a neon green parka, a string of shearling jackets done in a waffle-like texture), feels like a peek at the future. I see this and think of Christopher Kane's squidgy gel embellished dresses from fall '11 or, as a colleague points out, any number of Nicholas Ghesquiere's Space Agey moments. And it feels like a transformative moment for Alexander; this isn't a designer who people can just dismiss as the guy who does the model-off-duty jeans and tees. And the shoes — thigh-high rubber waders with white soles and mule boots that stretch up to the knees — are contenders for next season's street-style trophy accessory.

9:51 p.m.
It turns out that driver's comment was foreshadowing. We're all trapped in traffic and live-tweeting our experiences. Steven Kolb sums it up best: "Last one to leave #Brooklyn please turn off the lights." **KH**

Tibi

Christian Siriano

expect the scene at **Christian Siriano** to be a madhouse. But everything is so ... low-key. Perhaps that's to be expected from the "Project Runway" alum, who's taken pains to temper his brash personality in recent seasons in an effort of prove that he is truly a capital "D" designer.

4:20 p.m.
The show notes say that Siriano was inspired by 1950s haute couture model Lisa Fonssagrives, particularly first husband Fernand Fonssagrives' portraits of her. (She was also married to Irving Penn.) That, combined with the vintage gaslights on the stage, tell me that this is going to be a blast from the past (hey, at least it's not anther '70s show!).

4:30 p.m.
The show opens with a very on-trend furry knit coat in a rich forest green and pleated green leather pants. Oversized alpaca coats in rich jewel tones follow. Then come the real homages to the glory days of haute couture: cinched waists, smart suits and full, flared skirts and oversized bell sleeves worn with black saucer-like straw hats — as Ms. Fonssagrives would have done herself. (The clothing owes a debt to Christian Dior, both vintage and the stuff that Raf Simon's been showing the past few seasons there.) Of course, there are ballgowns, too (this is Christian Siriano): flouncy marbled organza confections as well as a high-necked lace trumpet gown, worn by a vamping Anna Cleveland, whose dramatic performance actually elicits whistles from the camera pit. This is high-wattage glamour, from start to finish. **RL**

The scene

Christian Siriano

I spot "SNL" comedienne Aidy Bryant and "Game of Thrones'" Maisie Williams but besides that it's pretty laid back. It seems that the fashion industry has finally accepted Siriano as more than just a Reality TV star.

- **What this will mean for your wardrobe:** You still have cinching belts from a few seasons back, right? Good.
- **The major trends:** Jewel tones, alpaca, fuzzy oversized coats

The scene

Tibi

Cool bloggers (Man Repeller), lots of friends and family–the designer received lots of hearty whoops and cheers and we-love-you-Amy's during her bow.

- **The major trends:** Plushy knits, loafers, menswear, ponchos
- **What this will mean for your wardrobe:** Follow Chanel's maxim and take one thing off before leaving the house, to help achieve that Shaker simplicity.

5:30 p.m.
Tibi designer Amy Smilovic is busy doing a final run-through when I arrive to do a backstage interview. I busy myself by snooping around: lots of black and white with the occasional shot of sky blue. Lots of crisp button-downs, some plushy coats.

5:50 p.m.
Smilovic arrives, fresh-faced, wearing white sneakers and an unstructured woolen pin-striped blazer. "Modern meets pastoral," she says of her new collection, taking a sip of champagne. "I was thinking of the Amish, but also an urban simplicity. And with all the cold weather we've been experiencing, I just wanted everything to be warm and comfortable." (She also says she's been listening to lots of Johnny Cash — always a good sign.)

7 p.m.
The show opens with a sky-blue felt wool coat worn with black slacks, a long fringed shawl, and a flat-topped Shaker hat. Nubby striped sweaters look seductively warm and comfy, and relaxed cuffed jeans are among the best that have appeared on the runway this season. Houndstooth onesies, slouchy menswear blazers, and a deliciously plushy red turtleneck sweater dress round out the collection. You see the Amish influence, for sure, but also a kind of punky insouciance embodied by not only Johnny Cash but also Patti Smith, who we could see rocking a lot of these looks. **RL**

Smoothies to beat the winter blues

Blend it. Juicing isn't just a bikini-body thing — here are five health-boosting recipes to try.

ROMINA McGUINNESS
romina.mcguinness@metro.lu

Benefit. Immune-boosting smoothie

Packed with antioxidants, vitamin C and immune-boosting herbs.

1 Cover a handful each of goji berries and mulberries with water to soak and rehydrate while you prepare the other ingredients.

2 Into a blender, add: a handful of blackberries, a handful of blueberries, juice of a quarter of a lemon, 17 ounces of almond or rice milk, 3 ounces of coconut water and 2 teaspoons of honey (manuka if you have it).

3 Add the soaked goji and mulberries, including the water. Add a pinch of cinnamon powder. Blend well and serve. This makes two large servings and is best drunk fresh to preserve its vitamin content.

Boost your immune system with this bad boy. / NEALS YARD REMEDIES

Benefit. Cold & flu relief

A tasty juice combined with well-researched antiviral and immunity herbs to combat the symptoms of colds and flu.

1 Begin by infusing the following antiviral immunity dried herbs in a cup of hot water:
1 teaspoon of olive leaf,
1 teaspoon of sage, 1 teaspoon of Echinacea and grated 1-3 centimeters of fresh ginger root.

Cold & Flu Relief Smoothie
NEALS YARD REMEDIES

2 Leave to infuse for 15 minutes while you prepare the other ingredients.

3 Juice four large oranges and one lemon, a handful of crushed fresh mint and three teaspoons of honey (manuka if you have it).

Benefit. Circulation tonic

Joint conditions and even cellulite benefit from warming and circulation-boosting herbs, which have nature's supply of vitamins, calcium and glucosamine.

1 Begin by infusing 1 teaspoon of dried rosemary in a cup of hot water or 2 teaspoons of fresh herbs.

2 Juice: 2 beets, 1 large handful of watercress, 1 medium cucumber, 2 sticks of celery, ½ a lemon including the peel, 2-3 centimeters of fresh ginger root.

Circulation Tonic Smoothie
NEALS YARD REMEDIES

3 Add ¼ teaspoon of cayenne powder and ½ teaspoon of turmeric powder.

4 Using a strainer, add the cooled herbal infusion once chilled.

Benefit. Ultimate skin radiance

Ultimate Skin Radiance Smoothie / NEALS YARD REMEDIES

With enzymes and herbs to cleanse, anti-inflammatory herbs for clear skin and high-antioxidant vitamins to protect, this tonic works for all skin types, hair and nails.

1 Juice the following: ½ of a papaya, ¼ of a pineapple, 2 handfuls of spinach, 1 apple and 4 small florets of broccoli.

2 Whisk in ½ teaspoon turmeric powder.

3 For an added boost, add one avocado.

4 Combine the juice and blended ingredients and add filtered water to reach desired consistency.

PLUS

Recipe

Gym buddy

Great to drink during or before exercise to increase metabolism, hydrate and boost electrolytes and B vitamins.

Begin by infusing 1 heaped teaspoon of green tea leaves in a cup of hot water.

Juice the following:

2 grapefruits
1 lemon
Ginger to taste

Add the strained and chilled green tea infusion.

All recipes courtesy of Suzanne Colston-Lynch, Head of Training at Neal's Yard Remedies, a British retailer of organic natural health and beauty products. www.us.nyrorganic.com

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Yoga sex scandals

Ethics. They're as old as yoga itself, but new rules say not to hook up with students.

Meditating on your teacher's hot bod? Might not be the best idea.
COLOURBOX

Despite yoga's strong ties to spirituality, famous yogis often become something like rock stars to their disciples, enjoying power, adulation, money — and sex. So why is it so shocking when yet another "yoga sex scandal" breaks?

Even if teachers and participants in a yoga class are adults, and of legal age of consent, the instructor/student relationship is inherently susceptible to an abuse of power — particularly if the instructor is considered a spiritual "guru."

"Generally, we believe the yoga teacher community, as a whole, isn't open to sex with students," says Monika Werner, co-owner of Bold & Naked yoga studio and an instructor who co-directs yoga teacher training certification programs at Joschi Yoga Institute in New York City. "If it's consensual, it's nobody's business. But I wouldn't encourage sex between teacher and student, and think it's wrong to look at your yoga class as a place to find a new sex partner. I think that most yoga teachers are just there to teach yoga. But there are some black sheep [who take advantage], just like in any industry."

Sexual misconduct has become so common that the Yoga Teachers Association of California outlined more explicit guidelines in its code of conduct, stating, "While acknowledging the complexity of some yoga relationships, we avoid exploiting the trust and dependency of students. ... All forms of sexual behavior or harassment with students are unethical, even when a student invites or consents to such behavior involvement."

On the national level, the Yoga Alliance advises teachers to "avoid words and actions that constitute sexual harassment or harassment based on other legal protected characteristics." The organization also requires members to behave in a "professional and conscientious manner ... ensuring that I live up to any commitments I make to my students or to the public, and ensuring that my practices and behavior conform to the representations I make about myself in holding myself out as a yoga practitioner who adheres to certain precepts."

The latest so-called scandal involves actress Uma Thurman's brother Dechen Thurman, a Jivamukti yoga instructor whom a (presumably former) friend, Maria Sliwa, says confided in her that he's a sex addict who frequently engages in sex with his female students. Sliwa says that she informed Jivamukti management, which prohibits teachers from sexing up their students, about Thurman's proclivities, but the organization hasn't done anything about it.

The accusations against Thurman aren't uncommon, but they are rather innocuous, at least compared to others on record. Some cases of yogi impropriety are much more serious and carry far graver consequences. Below, we've outlined just a few cases.

VIRGINIA PELLEY
letters@metro.us

The cases

Swami Muktananda

Although he claimed to be celibate and endorsed sexual abstinence to his followers, the guru reportedly molested and raped young girls in a secret-ish sex lair equipped with an apparatus that witnesses likened to a "gynecologist's table" in his ashram in India. Muktananda, who died in 1982, was also accused of intimidating and even beating followers.

Kausthub Desikachar

Four women from the European Krishnamacharya Healing and Yoga Foundation Yoga Therapist Training filed formal complaints with Austrian police in 2002, accusing Desikachar of sexual, mental and emotional abuse. The North America KHYF sent a notice to members stating, "The allegations include the misuse of his position as a yoga mentor by utilizing his knowledge of personal histories of sexual and emotional trauma in an attempt to initiate sexual relations."

Yogi Bhajan

Bhajan lied to his followers about his former station in India before coming to the U.S. in 1969, claimed he could see into the future and was accused of infidelity and rape. Bhajan taught a type of Kundalini yoga influenced by Sikh practices and died in 2002.

Another hot case

Bikram Choudhury faces many accusations.
WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Bikram Choudhury

Lady Gaga and George Clooney are among his practitioners, but five other students of Choudhury's "hot yoga" are suing him for rape, claiming he used his guru status to intimidate and take advantage of them. His accusers also contend that Choudhury punished them when they refused his advances, rewarded male teachers who brought him women who were easy to manipulate and did creepy things such as brag of his "72-hour marathon sex sessions" during lectures.

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There is a lot of love and a lot of nakedness at the Cupid's Undie Run. / CHAD LEATHERS

Work it (and work out) this V-Day

Pair up. Ditch the chocolates this Valentine's Day and exercise with your partner instead.

LASSE EMIL KRISTIANSEN
letters@metro.us

Speed (and Agility) Dating Circuit Workout

If you're looking for a date, you might as well burn some calories in the process. Every Thursday in February, New York Sports Club will host the Speed (and Agility) Dating Circuit Workout where you get to flirt while you're breaking a sweat. Thompson Plyler will run the workout — he's both a trainer and a relationship expert, so you'll be in good hands. **NYSC at 30 Wall St. Every Thursday through February at 6 p.m. Free for both members and non-members**

Partner Yoga and Acrobatics Playshop

At this yoga workshop, it's all about balance, plus some heavy lifting. If that's not hard enough, you'll also learn some things about communicating your desires. Sounds fun, and nearly impossible, right? **Body & Pole, 115 W. 27th St., Feb. 15, 5-8 p.m. $65**

Yoga Download

How does yoga as foreplay sound? If you're into that kind of thing (it's OK, we don't judge) you can download a yoga class for partners on Yogadownload.com. Your partner becomes your prop in the comforts of your own living room. One of the classes for couples is Amy Baglan's 60-minute Partner Yoga. **Anywhere and anytime. $2.99 to stream and $7.99 to download**

Cupid's Undie Run

Exercise, have fun and raise awareness of children's health by participating in the Cupid's Undie Run. Jogging in your skivvies is worth it when it raises money for the Children's Tumor Foundation. Plus, it's easier to check out the goods on a potential post-run hookup when you're both already in your underthings. **Stage 48, 605 W. 48th St., Feb. 15, noon. $60**

Valentine's Day Salsa Class

Hips don't lie and the Ailey Extension — the teaching wing of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater — knows it. They're hosting a salsa class on Valentine's

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evening, no partner or previous knowledge required. **405 W. 55th St., Feb. 14, 7-9 p.m. $25, $45 for couples**

Danny Zapata's Broken Hearts Club at Flywheel

This is one for the haters. While everyone else is planning what to do for the big day, you can take this Broken Hearts spinning class with Danny Zapata. Don't just hate Valentine's Day; break a sweat doing it! **Flywheel Flatiron, 39 W. 21st St., Feb. 10, 8:30 p.m. $32**

Why sweat alone?

Trooper Fitness Sweatmate Bootcamp

Grab your spouse, partner or date and hit the gym. Calories will definitely be burned —and a few tears may be shed — at the Sweatmate Bootcamp on Valentine's Day. This high-intensity boot camp is hard, but the more calories you burn, the more you can eat at your Valentine's dinner afterward! **Titan Fitness Studios, 164 W. 25th St., Feb. 14, 6 p.m., $20**

Get sweaty at Sweatmate Bootcamp. / PROVIDED

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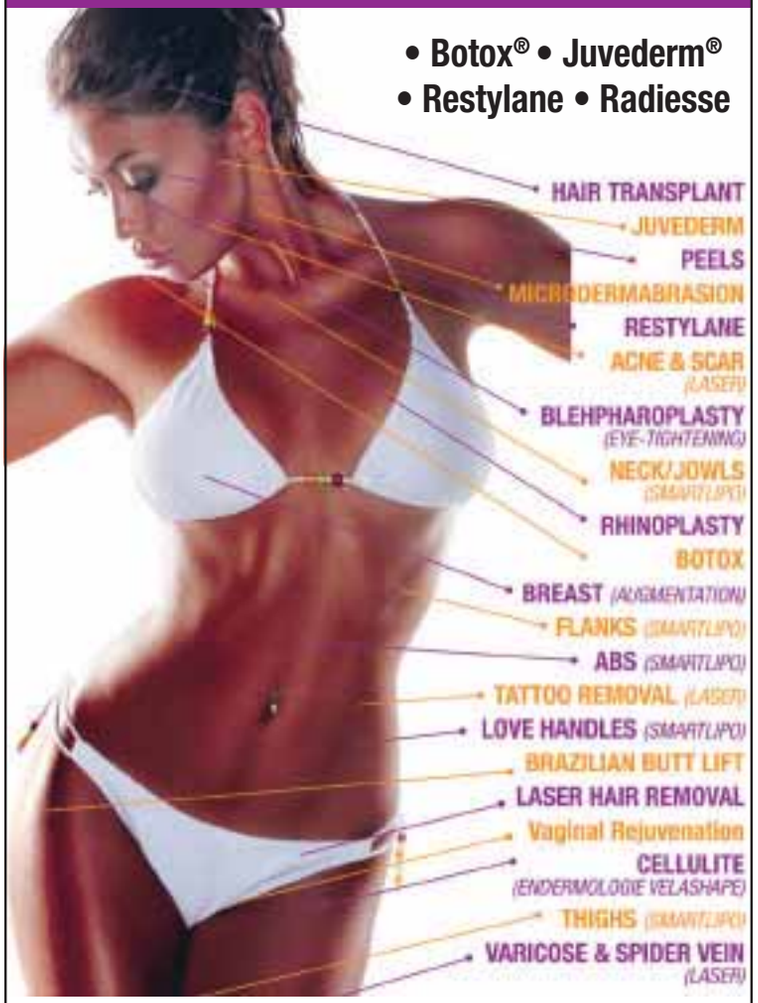

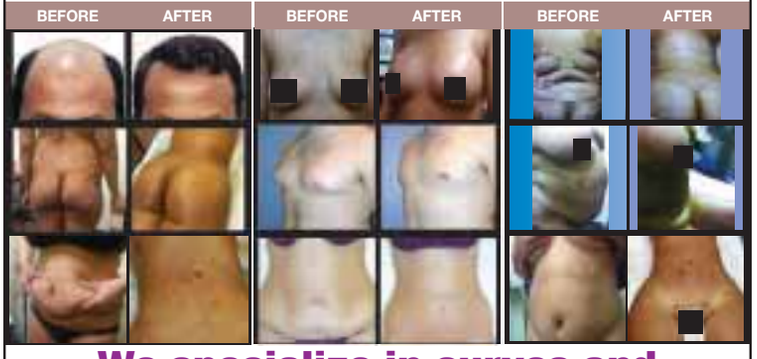

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PACK YOUR LUGGAGE AND HEAD TO WORK

Globe-trotting on the company's dime can be more fun than banking it yourself — just make sure you do the research. / ERIC AUDRAS, PHOTOALTO

Travel. Sometimes, seeing the world can earn you a paycheck too.

Working abroad starts with a dream, some big questions and plenty of research. Here's how you can start:

Do your research

You can literally spend hours, days, even months learning all the details of your perfect destination — but there is no such thing as the perfect city. To find the right match, there are a few things you should dedicate some serious time to researching.

1 Work visas and permits
You'll have to start research sooner rather than later to find locations that have what you're looking for — and where you're eligible to work. Paperwork is the less sexy part of working abroad, but it's a vital step, and it takes time. This step will also help you consider the length of time of your ideal international assignment. Don't be discouraged if your dream destination isn't an option. Embracing the unexpected is a big part of working overseas.

2 Language skills
Look into the local language of your dream destination and be realistic about your own skills. The world is getting smaller and the language skills on your résumé could prove to be a competitive advantage. Just make sure you're willing to take the time to learn.

3 Industry trends
If you are committed to working in a particular industry or field of work, read up on global reports indicating geographical trends. Read industry news to gain important insights into your field of interest. Think globally in any field of work and seek the opportunities from there.

4 Learn from people in the know
One of the best and most in-depth ways to investigate whether your dream destination will fulfill your objectives is to ask those who have gone before you. Seek out professionals who are working in your field of interest in your dream destination. Set up an informational interview or informal chat to learn their story. In addition to asking about the pros and cons of their experience, ask how the experience changed them and what value it added to their career path. Reach out on social media and mine expat networks too.

TANIA DESA

Talentegg.com is a job board and online career resource for college students and recent graduates.
TalentEgg

Search your soul

Ask some questions

In order to get to where you're going, you have to know your destination. Craft a vivid picture of where you want to work and how you want to live by answering the following five questions:

• What intrigues me most about living and working abroad? (List experiences and places that immediately come to mind.)
• How could the experience enhance my skills?
• What types of people do I want to be around?
• What type of work do I get energized about?
• After work, what do I want to do to have fun and relax?

Look back at your answers. There you can see what sparks your interest. What are the trends? You may gravitate toward Asia to learn more about doing business in emerging markets. Perhaps your passion for improving your high school Spanish means you should head to South America. Observe the trends in your thoughts and desires then leap into the next phase.

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No more bored meetings

Group think. Make every gathering of the minds matter.

Cooperative cultures are often profitable too. / BENIS ARAPOVIC

The conference room can be the place where big things happen — unless it's where productivity goes to die. The key to having meetings that get things done is planning and cooperation, according to Berny Dohrmann, founder of CEO Space, a company whose workshops and conferences are geared toward making workplaces more efficient.

"There are oceans of waste in endless meetings that don't have 'deliverables,'" Dohrmann says, referring to the specific goals he says should be addressed whenever employees come together. In his opinion, almost everyone is doing it wrong.

Before you convene at the table, he suggests naming a "psychic leader" for the meeting, plus one to three specific goals. But the most important thing he suggests is that everyone check the bad attitude at the door.

"Criticism is a destructive element," he says, suggesting that employees should be encouraged to "plus" one another. This means having a meeting framework where those present are encouraged to build upon and boost each others' ideas instead of being negative. "This builds consensus to make common objectives possible," he says.

These collaborative workplaces aren't just kicking butt in the conference rooms either. Dohrmann cites the winner's circle of profitable companies, like Google, Apple and Zappos, as workplaces with cooperative cultures. Meanwhile, he says, "uncool companies that are competitive — like Exxon and Microsoft — are completely losing their way, having endless meetings that go nowhere."

JULIA FURLAN
julia.furlan@metro.us

Yawn-fighting tips:

The next time you're trapped in a meeting with listless leadership and meandering direction, keep Dohrmann's tips in mind:

- Before going into the meeting, make sure there are "deliverables," or specific things that employees are attending the meeting to gain or learn.
- During the meeting, have one person act in a leadership position. His or her focus and guidance can keep things moving in the right direction.
- Throughout the workplace, make sure that being positive and cooperative is highly valued, instead of breeding a competitive workplace where employees are pitted against one another.

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Horoscope

Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb 18. Let your creativity lead the way. Be proud to display your capabilities. Expand your horizons by reading, listening or interacting with intellectual people.

Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Your opinions are best kept to yourself if you want to avoid misunderstandings. Remaining quiet will give you the chance to strategize.

Aries | March 21-April 20. A sure way to boost your spirits is to get together with friends and enjoy a pleasant trip or activity.

Taurus | April 21-May 21. Change is needed in your life. Make your feelings known, and collaborate with friends or co-workers to achieve the improvements you desire.

Gemini | May 22-June 20. You can avoid a challenging situation if you make a plan that allows you to act independently, away from pack mentality.

Cancer | June 21-July 22. Spend your day doing things that make you happy. Keeping on top of personal needs will help decrease your stress.

Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. Your leadership qualities will complement your skills in terms of what you have to offer a group, project or cause.

Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. You will be frustrated if you rely on others to help you get ahead. Use your own means and methods to forge a successful path, and pay attention to detail and the fine print.

Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. You are an intelligent and gifted individual. However, doubts and indecision will hold you back.

Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. It's time to get back to a strict routine and a proper diet. Taking care of your health is important.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. Today will be emotionally taxing, requiring everything you've got. Don't be upset by criticism — take it as a chance to make improvements.

Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan 20. Be aware of the events happening around you. Take an opportunity to make a decision that will turn a negative into a positive. BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Sudoku: Easy and hard

							6	
7					1	9	2	
3			4	6	5			7
			9		4	6		
9		5				7		4
		3	7		8			
4			1	9	2			8
	5	9	6					2
	7							

6			2	8		5		
			7	1		6	4	8
	8					9		
	6				2			
5			8		1			4
			3				6	
		3					2	
8	2	9		5	7			
		6		2	3			5

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Crossword

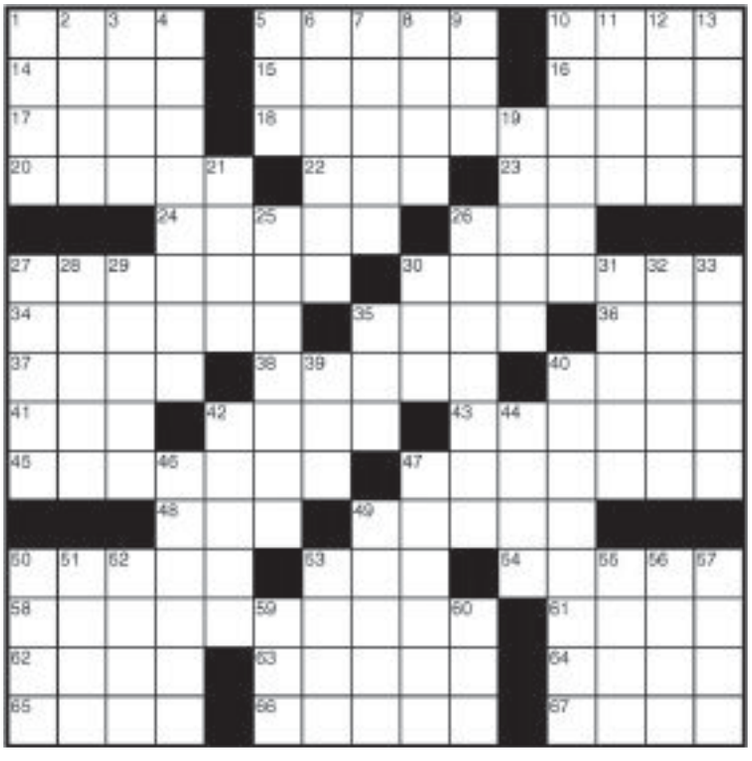
Across

1 Lox purveyor
5 Golfer Lorena —
10 — -finding mission
14 Cosmetics brand
15 Notes played together
16 Falco or Sedgwick
17 Explorer — Ericson
18 Deadline (2 wds.)
20 Sahib's place
22 Ego companions
23 Amazons
24 Clear a hard drive
26 Donne's "done"
27 Nutty confection
30 Trucker's need (2 wds.)
34 Weekend end
35 D.C. biggie
36 — — shoestring
37 Tarzan's pals
38 "Star Trek" doc
40 Chimney dirt
41 Grazing area
42 Razorback
43 Exist naturally
45 Liquid metal
47 Baker, often
48 Scurry along
49 Unbending
50 Caper
53 Father, once
54 Citrus fruits
58 Fast learner (2 wds.)
61 Ocean compound
62 Humerus neighbor
63 Ticket info
64 Pita treat
65 "—, poor Yorick!"
66 Skulk
67 Tureen contents

Down

1 Surrealist painter
2 Tied
3 Burglar's "key"
4 Baseball diamonds
5 Autumn mo.
6 Open carriage
7 Crowd
8 PTA and NEA
9 Summer cooler
10 Snap-brim hat
11 Mr. Sandler
12 Refer to
13 New driver, maybe
19 Dweeb
21 "La Traviata" highlight
25 From now on
26 Paying heed
27 Choir selection
28 Delhi currency
29 Keep— — to the ground
30 Company VIP
31 Rainout-proof
32 Get acclimated
33 Movie with a posse
35 Playback machine
39 Coral islet
40 Nuances
42 Skylark maker
44 Buzz's capsule-mate
46 Tijuana girls
47 Begin to burn
49 Wake up
50 Swimming pool hue
51 Canceled
52 Ike Turner's ex
53 Follow the recipe
55 BLT spread
56 Pantyhose color
57 Swill
59 Marsupial pocket
60 "Nope" opposite

Weekend's answer



Letters

Reports on Kerry not balanced

Re: 'Kerry is reluctant "star" of spoof by Israeli settlers' (Metro, Feb. 7) Twice in one week Metro focused on Israeli criticism of Secretary of State Kerry's peace proposals. The latest article detailed a YouTube video by a private Israeli settler group that spoofed Kerry. Meanwhile, for the past few weeks, senior figures in the Palestinian Authority have bashed Kerry's ideas as "dangerous" and "extortion." Anti-Kerry protests in Ramallah and Bethlehem have been frequent, with chants of "Kerry, you coward, you have no room in Palestine." The PA does not allow dissent, so these protests were approved at the highest levels. It seems Metro, Reuters and other news services think it unimportant to report on the problematic nature of Palestinian politics. I think it's important that mainstream news consumers get a more balanced picture.
DANIEL BROOKS, VIA EMAIL

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Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

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Men's hockey Sochi Olympics preview

Hockey's marquee tournament gets underway in two days. We break down all the contenders for gold.

MARK OSBORNE
mark.osborne@metro.us

The best hockey in the world may not come in the NHL every spring, but instead every four years in the Olympics.

Fans of the sport are already excited for what could be the best men's hockey tournament ever. The United States and Canada are ready to reprise one of the most historic hockey games ever from Vancouver, while the home team, Russia, has the weight of a nation on its back.

The tournament gets underway Wednesday — the United States first plays a day later — in Sochi, so here's a primer of what to expect from each country.

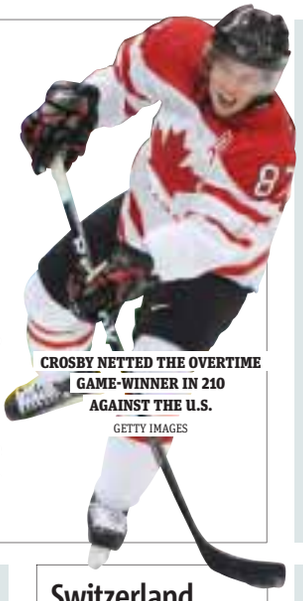
Canada

Vancouver finish: Gold

Round robin schedule:
Feb. 13, noon, Norway
Feb. 14, noon, Austria
Feb. 16, noon, Finland

Names to know: C Sidney Crosby (Penguins), C John Tavares (Islanders), C Jonathan Toews (Blackhawks), G Roberto Luongo (Canucks)

Outlook: Nothing less than a repeat gold is expected, and they have the best player (Crosby). But goaltending will be the big question mark.



CROSBY NETTED THE OVERTIME GAME-WINNER IN 210 AGAINST THE U.S.
GETTY IMAGES

Slovakia

Vancouver finish: 4th

Round robin schedule:
Feb. 13, 7:30 a.m., USA
Feb. 15, 3 a.m., Slovenia
Feb. 16, 7:30 a.m., Russia

Names to know: D Zdeno Chara (Bruins), RW Marian Hossa (Blackhawks), G Jaroslav Halak (Blues)

Outlook: The dark-horse of the tournament has the most physical defenseman and a goaltender in Halak who is 24-8-4 this season.

Slovenia

Vancouver finish: DNQ

Round robin schedule:
Feb. 13, 7:30 a.m., Russia
Feb. 15, 3 a.m., Slovakia
Feb. 16, 7:30 a.m., USA

Name to know: C Anze Kopitar (Kings), LW Tomas Razinger

Outlook: Slovenia is not realistically going to medal, but Kopitar is one of the best young players in the NHL and it is nice to see his team make its Olympic debut. The 26-year-old has 47 points this year.

A VERY YOUNG LUNDQVIST WON GOLD FOR SWEDEN IN 2006 IN TURIN.
GETTY IMAGES

Sweden

Vancouver finish: 5th

Round robin schedule:
Feb. 12, noon, CZE
Feb. 14, 7:30 a.m., SUI
Feb. 15, noon, Latvia

Names to know: RW Daniel Alfredsson (Red Wings), G Henrik Lundqvist (Rangers)

Outlook: If Lundqvist plays to his ability (better than for the Rangers in 2013-14), they have the offense to win a medal.

Switzerland

Vancouver finish: 8th

Round robin schedule:
Feb. 12, noon, Latvia
Feb. 14, 7:30 a.m., SWE
Feb. 15, noon, CZE

Names to know: D Mark Streit (Flyers), G Jonas Hiller (Ducks), W Nino Niederreiter (Wild)

Outlook: The Swiss are scrappy though not expected to medal. They have the NHL talent to sneak out of Group C.

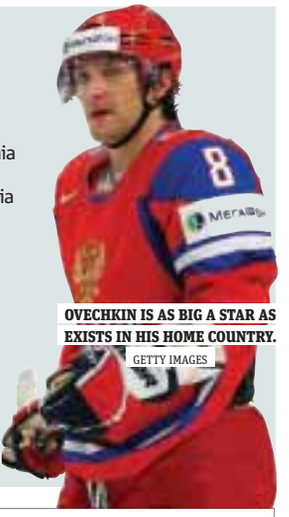
Russia

Vancouver finish: 6th

Round robin schedule:
Feb. 13, 7:30 a.m., Slovenia
Feb. 15, 7:30 a.m., USA
Feb. 16, 7:30 a.m., Slovakia

Names to know: RW Alex Ovechkin (Capitals), C Evgeni Malkin (Penguins)

Outlook: The fans are giving Russia no option other than gold after a disappointing showing in 2010. But they need to outscore everyone.



OVECHKIN IS AS BIG A STAR AS EXISTS IN HIS HOME COUNTRY.
GETTY IMAGES

Czech Republic

Vancouver finish: 7th

Round robin schedule:
Feb. 12, noon, Sweden
Feb. 14, 3 a.m., Latvia
Feb. 15, noon, SUI

Name to know: RW Jaromir Jagr (Devils), RW Jakub Voracek (Flyers)

Outlook: The Czechs won bronze in 2006 and could sneak onto the podium again.

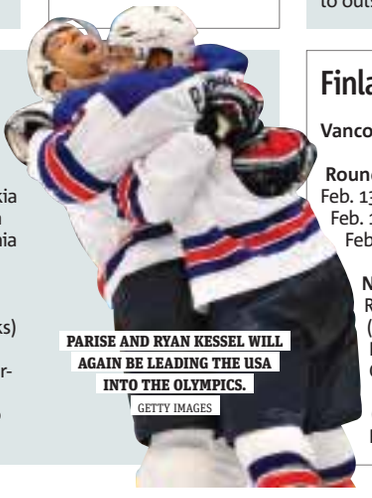
United States

Vancouver finish: Silver

Round robin schedule:
Feb. 13, 7:30 a.m., Slovakia
Feb. 15, 7:30 a.m., Russia
Feb. 16, 7:30 a.m., Slovenia

Names to know: LW Zach Parise (Wild), RW Patrick Kane (Blackhawks)

Outlook: One of the tourney's deepest group of goalies needs to step up like Ryan Miller in 2010.



PARISE AND RYAN KESSEL WILL AGAIN BE LEADING THE USA INTO THE OLYMPICS.
GETTY IMAGES

Finland

Vancouver finish: Bronze

Round robin schedule:
Feb. 13, 3 a.m., Austria
Feb. 14, noon, Norway
Feb. 16, noon, Canada

Names to know: RW Teemu Selanne (Ducks), G Tuukka Rask (Bruins), C Olli Jokinen (Jets)

Outlook: The Fins are one epic

TUUKKA RASK
GETTY IMAGES

Rask run from winning a shocking gold medal. If you're going against the U.S., Russia or Canada to win, Finland is your best option.

3 SPORTS

Play it again, Sam

NFL draft prospect states he's gay

Missouri defensive lineman Michael Sam has yet to be drafted by the NFL, but he's already made a historic first step for the league. Sam came out in an interview with ESPN's "Outside the Lines" Sunday. There are no known gay NFL players, though former NBA player Jason Collins announced he was gay last year. Sam says he told his teammates last fall.

Watch online

Find video and recap of yesterday's Nets-Pelicans game at: **Metro.us/sports.**

Wilkerson: 'I won't hold out'

NFL. The Jets' All-Pro says he has no plans to hold out this training camp, despite looking for a new deal.

Wilkerson was a surprising snub from the Pro Bowl this season despite being named to the All-Pro team. / GETTY IMAGES

The best player on the Jets wants to avoid a nasty offseason contract dispute like Darrelle Revis' contentious holdout in 2010. In fact, Muhammad Wilkerson said he wants to retire as a Jet.

The All-Pro defensive end told Metro New York on Saturday he hopes to sign a long-term deal with the Jets. Recent reports have said Wilkerson, who is entering the fourth and final year of his rookie deal, wants a pay raise and could be a possible holdout candidate.

Wilkerson denied he is considering a preseason holdout or thoughts of any lengthy contract haggling. He even sounded optimistic a deal could be in place to keep him in green and white for the foreseeable future.

When asked if a deal will be done this offseason, he left little wiggle room for his intentions.

"It will be taken care of, definitely. But all that holdout and all that other talk that people were saying and everything — I never said anything like that. I'm not going to hold out," Wilkerson told Metro New York. "It's not something I want; it's not something I'm thinking about. I'm going to show up like everybody else and do what I'm told."

Wilkerson spoke Saturday at Blink Fitness in Parsippany, N.J., where he served as personal trainer and fielded questions. During the question-and-answer session, he also sounded support for rookie quarterback Geno Smith, who struggled last season as the team's starter.

As for his Jets future, sources tell Metro New York no significant contract talks have taken place between Wilkerson's representatives and the team. But it is certainly his desire to strike a deal with general manager John Idzik.

He had 64 tackles last season and led the Jets with 10 1/2 sacks. He was snubbed from the Pro Bowl despite his performance from the end position in the Jets' 3-4 alignment.

"Like I tell everybody, that's what I got an agent for. I feel I've got a damn good one. They're going to discuss with John and them and I think they're going to work something out," Wilkerson said. "I have faith in them. At the end of the day, I want to be a Jet for life. I think I will be so I'm going to let everything take care of itself. Everything will fall into place; everything happens for a reason. I'm just sitting here waiting."

KRISTIAN DYER
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Knicks blown out

KEVIN DURANT
GETTY IMAGES

Knicks put up little fight in trip to OKC

This year's NBA scoring leader showed last year's scoring champion a thing or two at home.

Kevin Durant scored 41 points, and missed a triple-double by one assist, in a 112-100 victory for the Thunder over the Knicks Sunday afternoon.

Durant, who is averaging 31 points per game, lost the title to Carmelo Anthony last season.

Anthony put up a dud on Sunday as the team reportedly fights for head coach Mike Woodson's job. He had 15 points on just 5-for-19 shooting.

METRO

NBA. Nets get big game from Plumlee in win over Pelicans

When he wasn't soaring through the air for seven first-half dunks, Mason Plumlee was grabbing enough rebounds to let his veteran teammates sit back and enjoy a career-best showing by the only rookie on the team with the league's highest payroll.

Plumlee had a career-high 22 points and tied a career high with 13 rebounds in 28 minutes, and that as the Nets led wire-to-wire in a 93-81 victory over the Pelicans Sunday night.

Plumlee had 14 points at halftime when the Nets led by as many as 27 before taking a 51-28 lead into halftime. He did not play in the third when the Nets committed eight turnovers and saw 12 points shaved off the lead.

But Plumlee's impressive night continued in the fourth quarter as the Nets pulled away after taking a 71-60 lead into the period on a runner by Deron Williams at the buzzer.

Besides Plumlee's night, Alan Anderson added 13 points while Mirza Teletovic chipped in 13 and 11 rebounds.

All of this came in a game where Brooklyn's starting five of Joe Johnson, Williams, Paul Pierce, Kevin Garnett and Shaun Livingston combined for just 34 points on 13-of-24 shooting, and the Nets committed 22 turnovers. Brooklyn also won despite attempting 17 fewer shots than New Orleans (83-66).

Anthony Davis led all scorers with 24 points for New Orleans.

LARRY FLEISHER

By the numbers

19

Plumlee's previous career-high in his first season out of Duke was 19 points, set Nov. 16 against the Clippers. He tied his career-best 13 boards set New Year's Eve.

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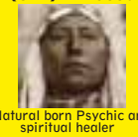

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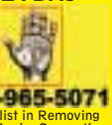

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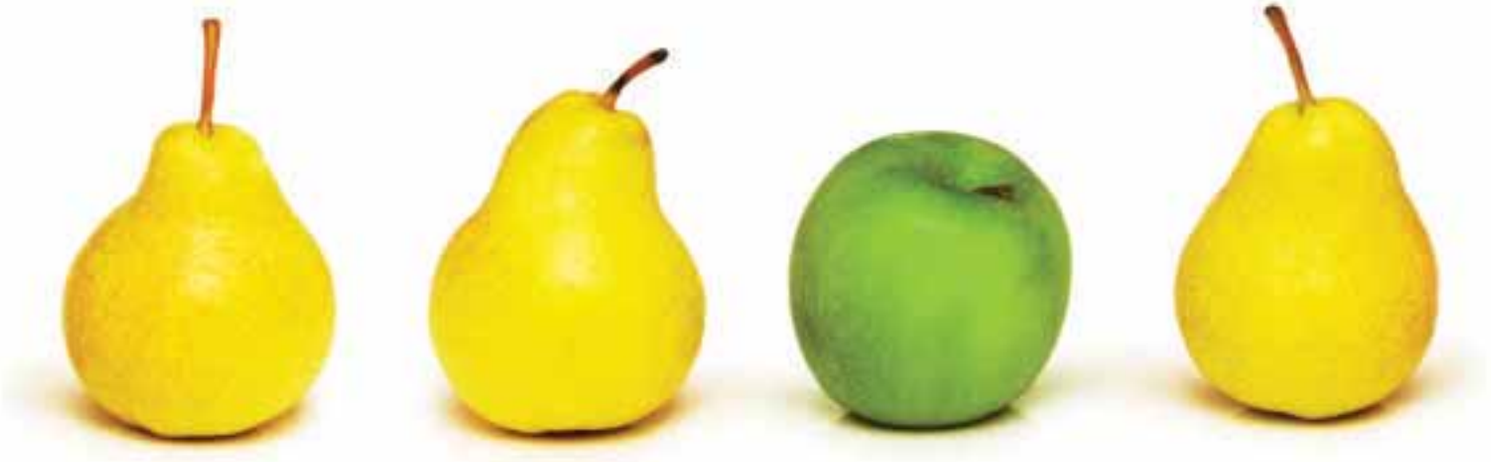

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